

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 H-03 AEC-11 AECE-00 OMB-01

IO-14 OIC-04 NEA-14 DRC-01 /165 W

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P R 071822Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2347

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T BONN 07363

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS--LINKAGE ISSUES

REF: BONN 7105

1. IN MAY 6 MEETING WITH EMBOFF, RUTH AMPLIFIED SOMEWHAT ON HIS COMMENTS TO DEAN (REFTEL) ON LINKAGE TYPE ISSUES. RUTH'S COMMENTS SOUGHT TO CLARIFY INITIAL FONOFF INSTRUCTIONS TO GERMAN NATO DEL ON THESE MATTERS.

2. RUTH REITERATED THE POSITIONS IN REFTEL ON THE NON-INCREASE OF FORCE AGREEMENT (PARA 3) AND THE GENERAL COMMITMENT TO REDUCE (PARA 5), BUT STATED GERMAN PREFERENCE FOR EVENTUALLY TREATING THESE TWO POINTS OUTSIDE OF THE PHASE I AGREEMENT--PERHAPS IN A DECLARATION OF INTENT. COMMENT: THIS IS A FAIRLY LONG-STANDING GERMAN IDEA DESIGNED TO LIMIT THE FORMAL MBFR-I AGREEMENT TO THE U.S. AND USSR WHILE PROVIDING A MORE

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INFORMAL VEHICLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN MBFR I BY THE

OTHER WESTERN PARTICIPANTS. IT IS RELATED TO THE GERMAN WISH TO AVOID A BUNDESTAG RATIFICATION PROCEDURE ON THE MBFR-I AGREEMENT (SEE BONN 7169 - PARA 5). END COMMENT

3. RUTH COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE U.S. IDEA OF POSSIBLY INCLUDING A PROVISION IN THE PHASE I AGREEMENT PERMITTING WITHDRAWAL OF THE U.S. AND USSR FROM THE AGREEMENT AFTER FIVE YEARS, UNLESS A PHASE II AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED. HE THOUGHT THIS CONCEPT MADE SENSE AND COULD TAKE THE STEAM OUT OF THE SOVIET DEMANDS FOR ASSURING THAT PHASE II WOULD TAKE PLACE. AS HE DID REPEATEDLY IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH DEAN, RUTH EMPHASIZED GERMAN SATISFACTION THAT EACH OF THE LINKAGE POINTS IN U.S. GUIDANCE IS CONDITIONED BY SOVIET ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMMON CEILING.

4. EMBOFF CLARIFIED U.S. POSITION ON THE FIXED PERIOD OF TIME BY DRAWING ON STATE 91987 AND PARA 3 OF STATE 87593. RUTH EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING FOR U.S. POSITION THAT IT IS NOT NECESSARY AT THIS TIME, RPT AT THIS TIME, TO LINK FIXED PERIOD OF TIME TO SOVIET WITHDRAWALS. HE UNDERSTANDS THIS TO MEAN THAT THE DISCUSSION WITH THE SOVIETS ON A SPECIFIC FORMULATION REGARDING THE FIXED TIME WOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE FINAL PHASES OF MBFR-I NEGOTIATIONS. SUCH TACTICS ARE AGREEABLE TO RUTH. HOWEVER, RUTH MADE CLEAR THAT, SUBSTANTIVELY, THE FRG WANTS TO ASSURE THAT COMPLETION OF SOVIET MBFR-I WITHDRAWALS PRECEDES THE BEGINNING OF MBFR-II NEGOTIATIONS.

5. ON A RELATED POINT, DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER ROTH TOLD EMBOFF THAT, DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO LONDON, TICKELL HAD GIVEN THE VIEW THAT THE LABOR GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH THE BAOR TO PARTICIPATE IN MBFR-II REDUCTIONS. AS REPORTED IN LONDON 5483, TICKELL INDICATED TO ROTH THAT BRITISH MINISTERS HAD NOT PASSED ON ISSUE BUT HE HAD GAINED THIS STRONG IMPRESSION FROM INITIAL CONVERSATIONS WITH NEW LEADERS.

6. EC-9 ARMS CONTROL EXPERTS MEETING MAY 7 IN BONN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY RATIFICATION, NEGOTIATIONS, BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BONN07363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740110-0494
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740569/aaaacjyj.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BONN 7105
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAR 2002 by smithrj>; APPROVED <07 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS--LINKAGE ISSUES
TAGS: PARM, GE
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005